

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows: (all claims listed):

1. (Currently Amended)      A method for scheduling appointments comprising:  
  
    sending a task request from a client to a server system, said task request including patient identification and resource identification;  
  
    determining, ~~at~~ by the server system, whether schedules associated with said patient identification and resource identification are stored in local cache memory ~~to~~ of said server system;  
  
    loading said associated patient schedule and resource schedule from a database into said local memory if said schedules are not available at said server system; and  
  
    determining available times for said resource schedule at said server system.
2. (Previously Presented)      The method of claim 1 wherein said determining available times step begins from a start timestamp provided in said task request for a period of time.
3. (Previously Presented)      The method of claim 2 wherein said determining available times step moves to a next period of time if not available times for said resource schedule are found.
4. (Previously Presented)      The method of claim 2 wherein after said determining available times step, at least one available time is transmitted from the server to the client.

5. (Currently Amended) A system for scheduling appointments comprising:

a server system adapted to receive a task request from a client, said server system including local cache memory and said task request including patient identification and resource identification, such that said server system is to store schedules associated with said patient identification and resource identification in local cache memory of said server system and said server system is to determine if said schedules are stored in said local memory, and to load said schedules from a database if said schedules are not stored in said local cache memory, said server system is to determine available times for said resource schedule at said server system.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5 further comprising:

a client coupled to said server system via a transmission medium.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 further comprising:

a database coupled to said server system.